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OCEANICA NO. 5

Olongapol, P. I., Nov. 15, 1919.
Editor News:

There is an intervening space of seven days between the Societies and Samoans, but a much greater one between the people. As we reached to bay of Pago Pago we were at once reminded of a sock, for we entered a harbor, the windings of which reminded us so much of that unromantic piece of wearing apparel.

With mountains rising almost to two thousand feet on all sides, we enter this beautiful harbor and find ourselves in the centre of an immense volcano, whose mountains stand a silent sentinel to those days when fire and lava were belched at intervals with terrific force.

In some manner this volcano had cut away on the side toward the sea, allowing the water to enter and destroy it, almost cutting the island of Tutilla into two parts. The bay of Pago-Pago could not but impress you. Reaching almost to the sky rise many mountains, covered with all kinds of fruit producing vegetation and the wildest animals known to man. In the distance is the majestic Rainmaker, so called because it seems to draw the moisture from every passing cloud, and send it in torrents into the narrow coastline and bay below. Eighty inches a year, it is said, or over six inches a month. On these mountains I saw my first "Aoa", or Banyan tree, of which we read so much among kids.

As we tied up at the docks we were again much impressed by the "Fita-Fita" guard and band that came down to greet us. They looked most picturesque in their bright red turbans, white undershirts and blue "Lava-Lava," which is a square garment wrapped around the hips, and forms a kind of a skirt and is held in place by a purple sash. These natives are physically perfect and form a body guard to the governor.

If you wish to understand the Samoans, an evening must be spent in their home as we did, and here is what we observed: As we approached the house, or rather hut, we noticed it was open about two feet above the ground on all four sides and had a conical thatched roof, the other parts being entirely of bamboo, also the furniture. No nails are used, everything is tied.

"Come in," called a voice from a rugged, muscular-looking object lying on the floor, reading a book. We were startled at his use of English, but recovered sufficiently to enter.

"What are you reading?" I asked.

"That, that bible. Me read him every night. Me christian! Me Protestant!" and so are all the natives, so much so that they never cook on Sunday, but eat fruits.

Samoans are great traders, so he at once asked us if we would buy a "Tappa Kava" bowl. He called to someone and in an instant appeared half a dozen women with their wares. Their wares included baskets of all varieties. Small canoes cut out of mahogany and highly polished, fruits and Tappa cloth beaten from the bark of the paper mulberry, and after our purchase had been made, he invited us to

see one of their dances, called the "Siva" dance and is to them what the "Hula" is to the Hawaiian. A young lady of about 18 did the dancing, and very much like the American, the more she performed, the greater desire she had to continue. At the end of the dance our little dancer got the Kava bowl, sat beside it and slowly ground some native herb, then mixed it with coconut juice. After straining we were each given a glass of the native Samoan drink.

The Samoans are great tattooers, but the practice is not begun until the age of marriage. The future bride watches the expressions of her lover while he is being tattooed, and if he shows cowardice or a feeling of pain, she refuses to marry him. The young lady, immediately after the ceremony, is tattooed all around the knee, so a person never need be mistaken about his girl. The designs are of native warriors and serpents.

These islands are little visited for they lie off any steaming route and are not commercially important, 4,000 miles from San Francisco, 5,000 from Hong Kong and 1,500 from New Zealand.

My next letter will be of the Philippines, or mostly of Manila. We are due in Vladivostok, Siberia, Jan. 5, 1919, so will write of Hong Kong, Shanghai and the former city in the near future.

J. D. CONDRA,
Ph. M. 1, U. S. N.
U. S. S. "So. Dakota,"
Care P. M., San Francisco.

FIRST CANDIDATE FOR SHERIFF

The first candidate to appear for sheriff of Marion county is J. A. Raulston. Mr. Raulston is one of the best known men of the county, having been in business for years, both at Jasper and Guild. He is a strong republican and comes out only after the solicitation of a host of friends. He is a very able man and would make an excellent sheriff.

Some people make room at the top by pushing others off.

RUPTURE EXPERT HERE

Seeley, Famous in This Specialty, Called to Chattanooga

F. H. Seeley of Chicago and Philadelphia, the noted truss expert, will personally be at the Patton Hotel and will remain in Chattanooga Wednesday only, Feb. 11. Mr. Seeley says: "The Spermatic Shield will not only retain any case of rupture perfectly, but contracts the opening in ten days on the average case. Being a vast improvement over all former methods—exemplifying instantaneous effects, immediately appreciable and withstanding any strain or position. This instrument received the only award in England and Spain producing results without surgery, injections, medical treatment or prescriptions. Mr. Seeley has documents from the United States Government, Washington, D. C., for inspection. All charity cases without charge, or if any interested call, he will be glad to show same without charge or fit them if desired. Business demands prevent stopping at other places in this section.

P. S. Every statement in this notice has been verified before the Federal and State Courts.—F. H. Seeley.

(Adv.)

Poster Tells Dramatic Story



This picture, painted especially for the Near East Relief by M. Leone Bracker, vividly portrays what words fail to express—the horrible suffering of the women and children of Armenia and adjacent countries. Peace has blessed Europe and America for more than a year but in Western Asia conditions were frightful than any war time experiences of the martyred populations of Belgium and France still exist. Thousands of women and children escaped massacre by the Turkish soldiers only to face the terrible agonies of death by starvation. At the present time it is estimated that 1,250,000 adults and fully 250,000 orphaned children are completely destitute and in imminent danger of death by starvation and exposure.

The Near East Relief, 1 Madison Avenue, New York, is at present the only organization giving aid to these suffering people and lack of funds still prevents the reaching of more than a small part of the stricken people.

PRYOR HOSIERY MILLS STEADILY GROWING

Jasper, Feb. 3.—The Pryor Hosiery Mills, under the management of W. L. Goodwin, a Jasper enterprise carried to completion by the zeal of A. R. Pryor is now running very successfully, and has an output of one hundred dozen pairs of stockings per day. New machines are being installed every week, five being installed last week, and this week it is expected ten machines to knit legs of stockings will arrive by express. Employees are being constantly added, and the management is being flooded with applications, there apparently being more desirous of work in the county than was dreamed of. Material is being ordered for the erection of the proposed dye-house. Temporarily the dyeing process will be performed in the basement of the building. It is intended to make this mill the largest of its kind in the section, and its growth will only be measured by the number of operatives and machines that can be secured.

Office in Courthouse.

Jasper, Jan. 30.—For the first time in the history of school management in the county the office of the superintendent of public instruction is located at the county seat. D. A. Tate, the efficient superintendent of schools, has opened an office in the courthouse, and it will be a great convenience to the people who have business to transact concerning the schools.

DEVELOPMENT OF MINING PROPERTY

The work of development of the mining properties at Cartwright, owned by the Palmetto Coal Co. Charleston, S. C., is progressing rapidly, and \$200,000 will be spent in improvements. A large number of houses for employees will be built, as well as an office and commissary. A movement is on foot to establish a bank and a social feature will be the establishment of a Y. M. C. A. It is expected that the pay roll will be increased shortly to \$2000 per week, employing a larger force.

A. R. PRYOR SUFFERING WITH STOMACH TROUBLE

Jasper, Feb. 3.—A. R. Pryor, the well-known business promoter, of Jasper, is ill at his home with a serious intestinal trouble, or enteritis. He is under the care of Dr. D. C. Shelton, and has been confined to his room for the past two weeks. Mr. Pryor is a man who has done more for his county in a shorter time than any one person in the county, and his illness is a source of regret to his many friends. He is now convalescing and will soon be able to resume his business duties.

Dr. Songer, of Jasper, is looking forward expectantly to Saturday when the republicans of Marion meet in convention. He is a great republican and thoroughly interested in the welfare of his country.

S. H. ALEXANDER, Pres.

OFFICERS:

T. G. GARRETT, Vice-Pres.

F. A. KELLY, Cashier

MARION TRUST & BANKING CO. JASPER, TENN.

Capital, Surplus and Profits, \$ 25,000.00
Deposits, 123,000.00

We pay interest on time deposits.
Combine absolute safety with satisfactory service.
Give particular attention to business of farmers.
Invite new accounts upon our merits for strength and superior facilities.
A strong bank can accord liberal treatment to its patrons. Our past policy and ample resources are our guarantee for the future.

We Want Your Business

AS TO TAX EQUALIZATION

A. V. Louthan, State Tax Statistician, Says Values Are Entirely In Hands of the Assessor.

(The following letter has been sent to tax assessors by A. V. Louthan, State Tax Statistician, to clear up misunderstandings relative to assessments of values.)

Dear Sir:

There appears to be an impression in the minds of the taxpayers of your county that their 1920 assessment has been made by Assistant Statisticians from Nashville, and that your authority to make your assessment as heretofore has been limited or taken away entirely. This is an error.

The work done by the Chief Tax Statistician and his corps of assistants in establishing the value of property is supposed to pretty fairly represent the total wealth of your county, and enables us to determine what the total assessment in 1920 from each county should be in order to effect equalization as between the counties. Each assessor has been furnished a copy of the proof. The law creating the State Board of Equalization does not in any degree take from the Tax Assessor his duty to make his assessment. This is still your function, to be performed by you as you have always performed it, except that you will be required to bring your county and each individual assessment to cash value. In my general letter of instructions to you, I said: "Wherever you discover that the proven value of any piece of property does not represent the actual cash value it is your duty to correct this error and to assess the property at its actual cash value, and enter your assessment in the column provided for this purpose on the proof transmitted to you. This is true whether the property has been valued at less than its cash value." In other words, our work will effect equalization as between the counties; your work should effect equalization within the counties on the basis of actual cash value.

I am of opinion that it would aid you in your work for the taxpayers to know that you have

full authority and that it is your duty to effect equalization within your county. I am therefore giving a copy of this letter to the papers of your county with the request that they publish same.

Soliciting your continued cooperation with this office to end that justice may be done your county and each citizen in your county, I am

Yours very truly,
A. V. LOUTHAN,
Chief Tax Statistician.

NONE DEBARRED FROM ATTENDING SCHOOL

Miss Nell Leland resumed her position as teacher in the Sequachee School Monday, under a new arrangement whereby Mr. G. Sherman, it is reported, will pay tuition of children whose parents are not financially able to send them to school.

The school began as a pay school Monday of last week, under Prof. Robt. Fuels and Miss Jennie Harris, and forty-three children were enrolled. Mr. Sherman noticing that a number of children were being deprived of schooling because their parents were unable to pay tuition, very kindly offered to pay for those unable to do so, and requested that Miss Leland again take charge of the intermediate room.

The school will probably run three months longer, and there is now no reason why any child in town should be deprived of schooling. Mr. Sherman is very much to be commended for his generous act in assisting the children of the town to acquire an education.

Accepted Fine Position.

Jasper, Jan. 31.—Miss Effie McCullough has accepted a position in Chattanooga as stenographer in the office of J. H. Anderson, referee in bankruptcy. She has been holding the same position first in the office of the Clerk and Master of Chancery Court, Jasper, and then in the law office of L. R. Darr, counsel for A. R. Pryor, Inc., and also for the N. C. & St. L. R'y. She will get largely increased salary in her Chattanooga position. She is a daughter of F. M. McCullough, of Jasper, sheriff of Marion county for two terms.

A. R. PRYOR, Inc.

AGENTS

Dodge Bros. Automobiles

Tullahoma JASPER Winchester
MAIN OFFICE